

SENATE RESOLUTION 157

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of George W. Roark of Oneida.

WHEREAS, we were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of George W. Roark; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roark was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the son of Stella Phillips Roark, George Roark was born in Oneida on February 22, 1924; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roark enlisted in the United States Navy on July 29, 1942, and attended boot camp in Great Lakes, Illinois. His ship assignments included the SS *Pan Maryland*, SS *Caribbean*, SS *Sachem*, SS *Edwin M. Stanton*, SS *Black Hawk*, and SS *Hagerstown Victory*, and his sailing took him to Odessa, Russia; Naples, Italy; Bizerte, Tunisia; and the islands of Sardinia, Corsica, and Curacao. He was honorably discharged at the rating of Gunner's Mate 2/C on January 13, 1946; and

WHEREAS, for more than six decades, George Roark was the owner and operator of Roark's Amoco Service Station, and he was well-regarded in his community for his friendship and the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, he was a longtime supporter of the schools and youth programs of Scott County, a sixty-two-year member of the Lion's Club of Oneida, and a member of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Mr. Roark was honored to be inducted into the Boys and Girls Club Hall of Fame in recognition of his contributions and commitment to his community as a business leader; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roark made a profession of faith and was baptized by Reverend Roy Blevins on November 1, 1959, at Bethlehem Baptist Church; he became a member of First Baptist Church of Oneida in the early 1960s and was an active member of the Median Men's Sunday School class for many years; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, George Roark enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife, Delores Terry Roark, for forty years until her passing; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roark was the proud father of Terry (Mary Ann) Roark, Lisa Roark (Ronnie) Baggett, Beverly Roark (Trebbly) Hicks, and Susan Roark (Anthony) Overton and the treasured grandfather of Matt (Paige) Roark, Mark (Whitney) Roark, Lindsey Paige Baggett, Lauren Baggett (Caleb) Walker, and Rachael Delores Baggett; he was eagerly awaiting the arrival of his first great-grandchild, Harper Reese Roark; and

WHEREAS, George Roark is also lovingly remembered by his sister-in-law, Alma Mynatt; his brother-in-law, Uriel Edde; his faithful friend and former employee, Cliff Terry; and a host of extended family and dear friends; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his wife and mother, he was preceded in death by his siblings, Ann Roark Chambers, Paul Roark, Rex Roark, L.V. Roark, and James (Doe) Roark; his niece, Leisha Rae Terry; his parents-in-law, Viva Terry and Maynard Terry; his sister-in-law, Lovenia Terry Edde; his brother-in-law, Eugene Mynatt; and his nephews, Dennis Mynatt and Vince Roark; and

WHEREAS, George Roark leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of George W. Roark,

reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Roark.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.